DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 480 466 HE 036 181

AUTHOR	Boswell, Tracy
TITLE	Campus Child Care Centers. ERIC Digest.
INSTITUTION	ERIC Clearinghouse on Higher Education, Washington, DC.
SPONS AGENCY	Office of Educational Research and Improvement (ED), Washington, DC.
REPORT NO	EDO-HE-2003-03
PUB DATE	2003-00-00
NOTE	5p.; Based on the ERIC-ASHE report of the same title, published by Jossey-Bass Publishers, a John Wiley company.
CONTRACT	ED-99-CO-0036
AVAILABLE FROM	ERIC Clearinghouse on Higher Education, Institute for Education Policy Studies, Graduate School of Education and Human Development, One Dupont Circle, Suite 630, Washington, DC 20036-1183. Tel: 800-956-7739 (Toll Free). For full text: http://www.eriche.org/digests/2003-3.pdf.
PUB TYPE	ERIC Publications (071) -- ERIC Digests in Full Text (073)
EDRS PRICE	EDRS Price MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Campuses; Child Care; *Child Care Centers; College Programs; *Higher Education; School Age Child Care
IDENTIFIERS	ERIC Digests; *Student Support Services

ABSTRACT

As the number of campus child care centers increases to meet the needs of a growing and diverse student and faculty population, many college campuses are struggling to recruit and retain faculty and staff. There are currently about 2,500 campus child care centers, and almost 35% are managed by an academic unit of the university, with another 30% managed by Student Affairs programs. The 223 respondents to a survey by the National Coalition for Campus Children's Centers reported serving a total of 19,266 children. Ninety-two percent reported that they provides child care for student families; 83% provided care for children of faculty and staff. Most child care centers began as laboratories for college students, often education students specializing in early childhood education. Today, 46% of the surveyed centers maintain a dual focus, serving parents and serving as a laboratory site for students. In 1998, Congress passed the Campus Child Care Supplement to the Higher Education Act to assist low-income students enrolled in postsecondary education. This program continues to be funded, and will play a part in the increase in the development of child care on college campuses. (Contains 12 references.) (SLD)

Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made
from the original document.

ED 480 466

ERIC Educational Resources Information Center

DIGEST

Campus Child Care Centers

Tracy Boswell

EDO-HE-2003-03

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

- ☐ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.
- ☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

- Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

ERIC Clearinghouse on Higher Education
George Washington University
Graduate School of Education and Human Development
One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 630
Washington, DC 20036-1183

HE 036 181

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Your gateway to Higher Education Information on the Web

ERIC-HE Digest Series

The George Washington University

U. S. Department of Education

EDO-HE-2003-03

Campus Child Care Centers

by Tracy Boswell

Introduction

There has been a dramatic change since 1975 when 'virtually no campus (child care) centers existed' (LCER, 1988, p.12). Today, the number of campus child care centers is increasing to encompass the needs of a growing and diverse student and faculty population. Many college campuses are currently struggling to recruit and retain qualified faculty, staff, and students, many of whom are seeking work or education on campuses that offer quality, affordable childcare.

The need for campus child care has increased in conjunction with the steady increase in numbers of women faculty and student parents on America's campuses. The percentage of full-time faculty who are female rose to 36% in 2000-01, up from 22.5% in 1975 (AAUP, 2001), while the percentage of undergraduates who are single parents increased from 10% in 1995-1996 to 13.3% in 1999-2000. (U.S. Dept. of Education, NEDRC table library, 2003; Scott, 2001).

How many campus child care centers exist and who administers them?

There are currently about 2,500 campus child care centers serving the nation's 4,000+ institutions of higher education. (Yachnin, 2001; Boressoff, 2002, p. 4) According to the National Coalition for Campus Children's Center's (NCCCC) 2002 membership survey (n=223), 88% of the respondents' centers are located on campuses. Almost 35% are managed by an academic unit of the University and another 30% are managed by Student Affairs programs. Other reported agencies administering campus child care centers include individual/non-profit agencies (15%), offices of administration/financial services (12%), offices of personnel/human services (10%), contracted/outside vendors (4%), parent cooperatives (2%), and other (7%). The 223 survey respondents reported serving a total of 19,266 children in campus child care centers (NCCC, 2002, p.1). Ninety-two percent reported that they provided child care for student families, 83% for faculty, 83% for staff, and 68% for the community (NCCC, 2002, p.2).

The role and benefits of campus child care centers

Once a child care center is established and recognized on a campus, it can be beneficial both to parents and the institution. A campus child care center can offer parents a conveniently located, good quality educational surrounding for their children. In turn, the center can contribute to an institution's success in recruiting and retaining faculty and students with child care responsibilities. The center's location on campus can minimize for parents the multiple adverse factors associated with off-campus child care, such as inaccessibility, inconvenience, commuting time, inflexibility and regulations imposed by an external child care facility. The positive impact of campus child care centers on student parents was

HE030181

revealed in a study conducted by the State University of New York. The study report concludes that graduation rates are higher for student parents when campus child care is provided--students are more likely to remain in school, graduate in fewer years, and earn higher grades (Kappner, 2002, p.1).

Child care centers as laboratories

Most campus child care centers began as small laboratories for college students, often for education students specializing in early elementary education. With the burgeoning need for campus child care since 1975, these laboratories have evolved into full-fledged child care programs (Yachnin, 2001). Many education departments and programs within colleges and universities can still profit by continuing to use the child care center as a setting in which college students can gain an invaluable applied experience.

NCCCC 2002 membership statistics show that 46 % of the 223 surveyed campus child care centers maintain a dual focus, providing service to parents attending or teaching classes and/or working on campus as well as serving as a laboratory site for the campus. This compared to 10 % using their facilities solely for laboratory experience and 39% solely to care for the children of students, faculty and staff (NCCCC, 2002).

The Campus Child Care Amendment: Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS)

While there are numerous institutional and state incentives designed to attract students with child care needs to campuses, the federal government also plays a role in encouraging low income parents with child care responsibilities to enroll in postsecondary education. In 1998, Congress passed the Campus Child Care Supplement to the original Higher Education Act of 1965 as a means to assist low-income parents enrolled in postsecondary education. The Child Care Access Means Parents in School Amendment enables campus child care centers to increase services to low-income students by offering subsidies and/or a sliding fee scale for child care tuition (U.S. Dept. of Education, 1998). Each college can receive a grant equivalent to no more than 1% of the federal Pell Grant dollars awarded to its students during the previous fiscal year. The grants are renewable for four years (Yachnin, 2001).

Congress awarded the CCAMPIS program $5 million in each of its first two years; funding increased to $25 million in both FY 2001 and FY 2002, with a total of 309 campuses receiving grants. The appropriated budget for federal fiscal year 2003 is $16.2 million, with no funds for new awards anticipated (U.S. Dept. of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education; Boressoff, 2002, p. 4).

The future of campus child care

The last twenty-five years have witnessed a tremendous increase in the development of child care on college campuses, with continued growth a possibility. Knowledge about actual campus experiences with sponsoring child care is beginning to accumulate and become available to researchers as well as to higher education administrators.

References

American Association of University Professors (AAUP). (2001, September). *Proposed statement of principles on family responsibilities and academic work.* [On-line statement] Available: [http://www.aaup.org/re01fam.htm]

Boressoff, T. (2002, Winter). CCAMPIS Update: New Grants - Bush Cuts - Reauthorization. *Campus Children's Centers News, vol. 18*, no. 1, 4.

Legislative Commission on Expenditure Review (LCER) (1988). *CUNY/SUNY Campus Child Care Program Audit*. New York: Author. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service ED 300892)

Davis, B. (2002). *2002 membership data analysis*. National Coalition for Campus Children's Centers. Iowa: University of Northern Iowa.

Kappner, A.S. (2002). *Across the education continuum: Child care on the college campus*. Cedar Falls, IA: National Coalition for Campus Children's Centers.

Scott, K. (2001, April 11). Campus child care keeps single-parent students on course. *USA Today*. Available [http://www.usatoday.com]

Thomas, J.A. (1995). *Child care and laboratory schools on campus: The national picture*. National Coalition for Campus Child Care, Inc. Iowa: University of Northern Iowa.

Uhlengerg, J. (20001). *2000 membership: Data analysis*. National Coalition for Campus Children's Centers. Iowa: University of Northern Iowa.

U.S. Department of Education (1998). *The campus child care provision of the Higher Education Act of 1965*. Retrieved April 4, 2003 from the Department of Education website. Available: [http://www.ed.gov/legislation/HEA/sec410.html]

U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. *NEDRC table library: Percentage distribution of undergraduates, by number of dependents, and the percentage of single parents: 1999-2000.* Retrieved April 4, 2003 from the Department of Education website. Available: [http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/npsas/table_library/tables/npsas35.asp]

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education. *Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools Program*. Retrieved April 4, 2003 from the Department of Education website. Available: [http://www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/HEP/campisp/]

Yachnin, J. (2001, February 2). Congress puts more money into aid for child-care centers on campuses. Retrieved April 4, 2003 from *The Chronicle of Higher Education* website. Available [http://www.chronicle. com]

This Digest is based on the ASHE-ERIC Report of the same title, published by Jossey-Bass Publishers, a John-Wiley company. For more information please visit www. jbp.com

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
GWU Home Page

ERIC Digests are in public domain and may be freely reproduced. This project has been funded in part by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Educational Research and Development, under contract no. ED-99-CO-0036. The Content expressed here does not necessarily reflect the positions or policies of OERI or the Department, nor does the mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

ERIC
Educational Resources Information Center

Maintained by: *webmaster@eric-he.edu*
This page last modified: 09/22/2003 18:07:42

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

U.S. Department of Education
Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI)
National Library of Education (NLE)
Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC)

NOTICE

Reproduction Basis

[ ] This document is covered by a signed "Reproduction Release (Blanket)" form (on file within the ERIC system), encompassing all or classes of documents from its source organization and, therefore, does not require a "Specific Document" Release form.

[X] This document is Federally-funded, or carries its own permission to reproduce, or is otherwise in the public domain and, therefore, may be reproduced by ERIC without a signed Reproduction Release form (either "Specific Document" or "Blanket").